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IMPROVED PARCEL POST

PROPOSED CHANGE AUGUST 15.

Include Reduction of Rates and Purchase of Large Number of Automobiles for Delivery.

Washington, July 21.—Plans for the extension, improvement and reduction in rates of the parcel post have been announced by Postmaster General Burleson. The changes, which are to become effective on August 15, include an increase from 11 pounds to 20 pounds in the maximum weight of parcels, a material reduction in the postage rates in the first and second zones, and the abandonment of the parcel post map as a means of computing rates and the substitution for it of a rate chart individualized to every postoffice in the United States. The plans contemplate the purchase of a large number of automobiles to be used exclusively for the parcel post matter.

While, for the present, the maximum weight of 20 pounds and the reduction in rates will apply only to the first and second zones, from any given postoffice—a distance of about 150 miles—the changes directed constitute the first long step towards a universal extension of the system and a general reduction in the rates of postage on parcel matter.

BURLESON'S PLANS.

"It is my expectation and belief," said Postmaster General Burleson, "that eventually—and it may be fifteen or twenty years—the postal service will handle practically all of the small package transportation business in the United States. The maximum weight limit, extended now from 11 to 20 pounds, I expect to see increased to 40 pounds, and experience may demonstrate the practicability of handling the parcel business at even lower rates than we now propose.

"In the making of extensions and reductions of rates, it is necessary, for us to proceed with caution, so as to afford ample opportunity to prepare for the increased business. For that reason we have made the changes proposed apply only to the first and second zones. I appreciate fully the sentiment for an increase in the weight limit and a reduction in rates to all zones, but it is necessary for use, in a sense, to feel our way."

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CHANGE.

Mr. Burleson announced the changes as follows:

"The first zone shall include the territory within the local delivery of any office and the first zone rate of postage will apply to all parcel post mail deposited at any office for local delivery or for delivery by city carrier or on rural routes emanating from that postoffice.

"The second zone shall include the remainder of what is now the first zone together with the present second zone, and shall include all the units of area located in whole or in part within a radius of approximately 150 miles from any given post-office.

"The rate of postage on parcels weighing in excess of four ounces in the proposed first zone will be reduced from five cents for the first pound and one cent for each additional pound or fraction thereof to five cents for the first pound and one cent for each additional two ounces or fraction thereof, and the rate for the second zone will be reduced from five cents for the first pound and three cents for each additional pound, or six cents for the first pound or fraction thereof, to five cents for the first pound and one cent for each additional pound or fraction thereof.

MAXIMUM WEIGHT 20 POUNDS.

"The maximum weight of parcel post packages will be increased from 11 pounds to 20 pounds, the increase of weight to apply only to the first and second zones. No change has been made in the size or form of the package."

Statistics collected by the department show that quite one-third of the total number of parcels mailed are handled within the proposed first and second zones, and the postmaster general believes the increase in the weight limit and the reduction of the rates of postage in the first and second zones, as proposed, will benefit greatly more than one-third of the public; and that the producer, the consumer and the local merchant will profit materially by the changes. He points out, too, that the farmers, who were led to anticipate much benefit from the parcel post service, will be afforded a cheap means of transporting their products directly to the consumer, and that the local merchant whose trade does not justify the employment of extensive delivery service also will be benefited, as the system will put him in close touch with his customers.

600,000,000 PARCELS.

At the outset it was estimated that 300,000,000 parcels would be handled during the first year of the operation of the parcel post system, but it now appears from the statistics that, influenced by the changes proposed the service will be so popularized that the number of parcels carried during the ensuing twelve months will be more than double the original estimate.

The rate sheet, which is to be used as a substitute for the parcel post map, will be prepared as soon as practicable and attached to the parcel post guide. The rate chart, to be

made for each postoffice, will be worked out from the local point of the unit in which the postoffice is located. The simplicity of the plan, it is thought, will make easily determinable the rate of postage from that unit to any other on any mailable parcel and will greatly facilitate the handling of parcel post matter at postoffice windows.

Postmaster General Burleson decided to purchase rather than lease automobiles for the delivery of parcel post matter in the belief that the machines could be bought outright and operated by the government at much less expense, and, at the same time, the service would be of greater uniformity and efficiency.

MAN MISSING WITH \$1,000 IN HIS POCKETS

The Proceeds From Sale of His Home in Augusta—Wife Fears He Has Been Murdered.

Augusta, Ga., Special to Columbia Record, July 21.—With \$1,000 on his person, the proceeds from the sale of his home, H. Coleman, an employee of the city board of health, tenderly kissed his wife good-bye Sunday afternoon and disappeared. Nothing has been heard of him since he was hailed by a train for Columbia shortly afterwards, when he replied, "I don't know," in answer to the question of his destination. Mrs. Coleman, when interviewed last night stated that her husband's mind might be unbalanced, as his actions when he left her to go down town were peculiar in the extreme. His wife fears that he may be the victim of foul play.

The Coleman's had disposed of their home on Hicks street preparatory to leaving for Asheville, N. C., where they were to go in search of health. They have been residents of Augusta for a number of years and the thoughts of leaving her native city caused Mrs. Coleman considerable worry, she said. Because of her low spirits, Mrs. Coleman regarded lightly the unusual actions of her husband, simply attributing them to evident sympathy for her in her trouble.

While she is possessed with the dread that her husband may have been murdered for the money in his possession, that fear is to an extent allayed by the report that he was seen climbing aboard a train for Columbia Sunday afternoon. Their domestic relations have been ideal, she says, through their ten years of married life. At first Mrs. Coleman was inclined to believe that the missing man had suddenly become possessed with a desire to return to Germany, his native land, but upon mature consideration, she was less inclined to regard this as a possible cause for his disappearance.

Mr. Coleman is a man of short stature, about five feet four inches in height, about 45 years of age and weighs about 135 pounds. He plainly shows the effects of his recent ill health, Mrs. Coleman says.

TEMPERATURE TO MODERATE.

Weather Bureau Officials Look For No Hot Wave This Week.

Washington, July 21.—No hot wave is looked for this week by the weather bureau.

"The present pressure distribution over the Northern Hemisphere," said the weekly bulletin yesterday, "appears favorable for the prevalence of moderate, or, at least, not unusually high temperatures over the greater portion of the country during the coming week. Over the South and Southwest temperatures probably will be high at times, but not so high as during the week just ended.

"As to precipitation, prospects are not very favorable, and generally fair weather may be expected over all sections except the South Atlantic and Gulf states, where occasional thunder showers are likely to occur. There are no indications of a West Indian disturbance."

WHITE HOUSE REPAIRS

Decorators and Painters Touching Up Mansion.

Washington, July 21.—Advantage is being taken of the absence of Mrs. Wilson and her daughters to touch up and freshen the White House. Painters are now at work revivifying the East room and touching up the walls and ceilings. No changes are being made either in the decorative or color scheme.

Other improvements which will be completed before the return of the women members of the executive family will include a remodeling of the attic to provide for an enlargement of the servants' quarters and the installation of a shower bath in the basement for the president. In addition there will be a general house cleaning which was not possible in the spring because of the bustle in becoming public state department official.

President is Hopeful of Currency Bill.

Washington, July 21.—President Wilson is still confident currency legislation can be enacted at the present session of Congress. He told visitors at the White House that the delay the currency bill has encountered was nothing more than he had expected because of the importance of the subject and the length of time required to frame a proper measure.

BRYAN'S NICARAGUAN PLAN

PROPOSAL CREATES INTEREST.

Understood That United States Will Not Be Responsible for Debts of Little Republic.

Washington, July 20.—Secretary Bryan's plan for the extension of the protecting wing of the United States over Nicaragua, broached to the foreign relations committee of the senate yesterday with the consent and approval of President Wilson, has become the absorbing topic of diplomatic and congressional consideration. While official utterances have not been given, of the purpose of the administration to outline a general policy toward Central America, members of the senate evince a growing conviction that the principle to be applied to Nicaragua is one that the Wilson administration would be glad to see extended to the other Central American republics.

Members of the foreign relations committee who were present when Secretary Bryan unfolded his plan Saturday, continued today to assert they could not discuss the new development.

The original Nicaraguan treaty has been the subject of open discussion among senators. This compact did not go further, however, than to guarantee the United States exclusive canal rights, and a naval base site, in exchange for a payment of \$3,000,000 in gold.

INTERNATIONAL POLICY.

The later project, to extend a virtual protectorate over Nicaragua, has assumed the character of an international policy, which members of the senate are discussing with emphatic expressions of opinion. It is believed that Senators Bacon, Clarke of Arkansas, Borah and some other influential members of the foreign relations committee will take the general attitude of opposition toward the Bryan-Wilson plan; while Senators O'Gorman, Burton and several others are known to favor many of its essential points.

Secretary Bryan has not proposed, it is understood, that the United States shall assume or guarantee the debts of the republic of Nicaragua. The desire of Nicaragua for a control of its customs resources by the United States so that it could secure loans to refund its pressing debt, has been known for some time, and met the opposition of the senate foreign relations committee when it came before that body in the form of a definite treaty agreement.

Secretary Bryan's plan calls for a definite statement of policy that would guarantee Nicaragua's independence, would guarantee the control by the United States of that country's dealings with foreign nations and would put into definite terms the recognized principles of the Monroe doctrine, prohibiting foreign nations from securing footholds on the American continent.

It is understood, however, that only one agreement upon the question of the international finances of Nicaragua would be embraced in that part of the treaty by which Nicaragua would bind herself not to "assume or contract any public debt," in the discharge of which "the ordinary revenues of the nation, after defraying expenses of the government shall be inadequate."

REVISE FISCAL SYSTEM.

Under this guarantee of financial stability, however, it is believed Nicaragua would find it possible speedily to revise the fiscal system and secure foreign aid for necessary public development. The only specific payment to be made by the United States is the \$3,000,000 in gold to be paid for perpetual exclusive canal rights over the Nicaraguan route and the naval bases in the bay of Fonseca and on the Great Corn and Little Corn islands in the Caribbean sea.

Nicaragua's finances have been the cause of repeated attempts at negotiations with the United States. After the failure of the effort to have the United States take charge of the customs houses, an agreement was made by the republic with New York bankers, whereby a loan of \$1,500,000 was secured, and Nicaragua voluntarily placed its customs house administration in the hands of an American. Former President Taft was asked to recommend a competent administrator, and under his suggestion W. J. Ham was employed by Nicaragua under the terms of the private loan agreement.

LIKE CUBAN RULE.

The Platt amendment under which the United States became the virtual protector of Cuba, adopted in 1901, received much Democratic support. Secretary Bryan proposes to incorporate almost without change the general language of this provision in the Nicaraguan treaty. Many Democratic senators declare that the policy proposed would be but a strong pronouncement of the attitude already announced by President Wilson as to the maintenance of independence and stability of government in the American republics.

Secession in China Means Certain War.

Washington, July 21.—Fukien Province has seceded from the Chinese republic, according to a dispatch to the state department today from Consul Fowler at Foochow. Fukien borders upon Kiang Si and Kwang Tung, the two provinces which already have thrown off allegiance to the Peking government.

PEACE PROSPECTS BRIGHT

THE DEMANDS OF TURKEY.

Bulgaria, Acting on Advice of Russia and Austria, Has Offered Territorial Concessions.

London, July 21.—The advent of a new Bulgarian cabinet, comprising a coalition of the Liberal groups, seems to have brought a prospect that peace negotiations soon will be entered into. After vain attempts to negotiate separately with Roumania, the Bulgarians accepted the advice of Russia and Austria and offered to Roumania an important territorial concession. Bulgaria also sent delegates to meet the Serbian and Greek representatives at Nish to negotiate an armistice and peace.

It is confirmed from Athens, that Serbia, Greece and Montenegro are ready to participate in these negotiations. Turkey, however, has introduced a new complication and has notified the European powers of her intention to make the Maritza river the new frontier, giving as her reason that she always has claimed this frontier, but that the powers set aside the claim in order to expedite peace, that the Porte would be prepared to settle the question by diplomatic means but that the atrocities and vandalism of the Bulgarians in the occupied territories make it impossible to do so for a settlement and that new conditions arising from the last war between the allies make it doubly necessary for Turkey to obtain a frontier guaranteeing safety to Constantinople and Dardanelles.

The Porte promises not to cross the new Maritza frontier and asks the powers' assistance in establishing it so as to secure durable relations between Turkey and Bulgaria. It is not considered likely that Europe will permit the decisions of the London conference thus to be thrust aside.

Bucharest, July 21.—The new Bulgarian government, in an appeal to Roumania, asks that peace be negotiated. This request has been refused, the Roumanian government announcing that it will conclude a separate treaty only.

Constantinople, July 21.—The Sublime Porte has issued formal orders to the army to occupy Thrace and Adrianople.

In a note acquainting the powers with this decision, it is announced that the new Turco-Bulgarian frontier will be the river Maritza. The Porte saddles Bulgaria with responsibility for any fighting that may ensue.

Sofia, July 21.—On the advice of Austria and Russia, the Bulgarian government, with a view to securing peace, has offered Roumania an important concession of territory, which Roumania has accepted. It is announced that an agreement has been reached whereby Roumania will participate in the general peace negotiations and that she already has sent delegates to Nish to arrange for an armistice.

London, July 21.—Telegraphing from Sofia Sunday evening the correspondent of The Daily Mail says:

"The crisis has arrived. Thirty thousand Roumanian troops have reached Orhanli and Etropole, within 40 miles of Sofia. Enver Bey, at the head of the Turkish cavalry, has arrived at Adrianople, where the Bulgarian garrison of 2,000 has received orders not to resist the Turks."

CRISIS IN MEXICO SOON IS EVIDENT

Next Two Weeks Fought With Tremendous Importance—Means Rise or Fall of Huerta.

Washington, July 21.—Alarming reports of an approaching crisis in Mexico have been received here by high government officials. It was authoritatively stated upon unimpeachable authority that the developments of the coming two weeks are regarded as fraught with tremendous importance to the Huerta government.

So delicate is the information they contain that an intimation of the advice became known today only with the stipulation that it was unofficial and that it should not be represented as being the view of any official of the United States government.

Authoritative publication of the nature of the advice, it is said, probably would precipitate the very crisis the dispatches forecast. The means by which the predicted event were to be brought to pass or what was to follow were not hinted at in the reports, which so far have found no reflection in military or naval preparations by the United States.

Meanwhile the administration is making time on the Mexican problem pending the arrival of Ambassador Wilson from Mexico City, which is expected by Thursday of Friday.

President Wilson finds himself in the same seat of doubt as to actual conditions in the rebellion torn republic as he did when in the hope of getting at the facts he summoned the American ambassador to the capital. He realizes that even the Americans scattered throughout Mexico individually are unable to get a comprehensive view of the situation in the whole country, their judgment being affected by purely local events. From

the Mexican capital come reports that have turned every engagement into a federal victory and so far the administration has heard absolutely nothing except through the press reports from the constitutional side of of the case.

This has led to an intimation that information of reliable character from that source would welcome by the administration.

At the request of Secretary Bryan Surgeon General Blue of the public health service has ordered quarantine officers at Havana and Key West to expedite the passage of Ambassador Wilson.

MRS. PANKHURST OUTWITS THE POLICE

Noted Suffragette Puts One Over on Detectives When They Place Impersonator Under Arrest.

London, July 20.—Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, the suffragette leader, again has outwitted the police. It was thought she had been arrested last night, but it was another woman, impersonating Mrs. Pankhurst, whom the police arrested in a taxi cab and took her part of the way to Scotland Yard. Then they discovered the mistake and liberated the prisoner. At first the affair was considered a hoax but it developed apparently into a well-laid scheme whereby Mrs. Pankhurst could escape from her flat by another passage, while her impersonator was luring away the police.

A taxicab stopped in front of the building, shortly before last midnight and two women alighted and proceeded to the second floor, where the Pankhurst apartments are located. Three detectives who have guarded the building since Mrs. Pankhurst escaped in the riot after the meeting of the Women's Social and Political Union July 12, blew their whistles for reinforcements.

Simultaneously 50 men and women gathered at the entrance, and a veiled woman, leaning heavily on her supporters, descended the steps and entered a cab. The detectives, concluding Mrs. Pankhurst was attempting to flee, jumped into the cab and ordered the driver to proceed to Scotland Yard. Before they reached their destination they lifted the veil and discovered their prisoner was not Mrs. Pankhurst.

The lights in the Pankhurst windows continued to glow and within half an hour the detectives returned and resumed their investigation of the premises. Meanwhile, however, the flat was unguarded. Lights appeared again tonight in the Pankhurst apartments and detectives were in the streets but all information was refused.

ASKING FOR DETAILS.

Foreign Countries Want to Know of Virtual Protectorate Over Nicaragua Proposed by Bryan.

Washington, July 21.—Now that Secretary Bryan's proposal for a virtual protectorate over Nicaragua has become public state department officials are expecting inquiries from the European powers respecting its details. Most of the diplomatic representatives of the powers are absent from Washington at the summer embassies and legations in the north; consequently no views from that quarter are available.

The suggestion, however, that the plan be extended to cover all the territory near the Panama canal zone has aroused the keenest interest in Latin American circles with some hints of opposition. Salvador recently made some objections to the Nicaraguan treaty in its original form and Costa Rica more recently objected to certain provisions relating to the proposed canal route; but the latter were based solely upon a claim for consideration in connection with the use of the San Juan river, which Costa Rica claims as her territory.

Europe's interest, however, is chiefly in the investments of her citizens in enterprises and securities of Latin America.

BOMB THROWING IN LISBON.

Police Frustrate Attempt—Baskets of Bombs Found in Autos.

Lisbon, July 20.—An organized attempt at bomb-throwing in various parts of the city early today was frustrated by the police, who had been warned. They captured several automobiles, in which they found baskets filled with bombs and arrested many persons who had gathered in the streets. While the police were engaged in these operations, shots were fired and several persons were wounded in another part of the city. One bomb, thrown from an automobile, killed a policeman and injured others.

Many of those arrested are said to belong to the advanced Radical party. Some children playing in the streets later in the day found two bombs. A boy hit one with a hammer and it exploded, wounding him severely.

Gen. Felix Diaz Off to Japan.

Mexico City, July 21.—Gen. Felix Diaz left here yesterday as special ambassador to Japan to express the thanks of Mexico to the Japanese for their participation in the centennial celebration in 1910. General Diaz will go first to Salina Cruz and thence by Pacific Mail steamer to San Francisco.

ELECTION COMPLICATIONS

AS RESULT OF DIRECT BALLOT.

Most Trouble Expected From Failure of Legislatures to Provide Appropriate Plans

Washington, July 21.—Complications are predicted as certain to arise over installation of the direct election method for selection of United States Senators. Most of the trouble is expected to result from the failure of State Legislatures to promptly provide appropriate methods for carrying out the recent amendment of the Constitution for direct Senatorial election.

Leaders of the Senate majority are more anxious about the situation than the Republicans two or more vacancies on the Democratic side of the chamber occur, the Democrats' narrow margin of power in the body would be gone. Thirty-two Senatorial terms will expire March 3, 1915. Some of the States already have provided a method of popular election of Senators, but many of them have not and vacancies caused by death or resignation, may call at any time for a popular election from States which have not yet acted.

A UNIFORM METHOD.

Democratic members of the committee on privileges and elections have considered the advisability of having a national law prescribing a method applicable to all States alike. To do this Congress would exercise its power under the Constitution, to revise State regulation as to the time and manner of selecting Senators, a step which never has appeared to Southern Senators. No sooner had the suggestion of Federal legislation been made than they entered a protest and the idea has been abandoned.

The Legislature of Georgia recently enacted legislation in regard to placing the names of Senators on the ballots and has elected the first Senator by this method. The Florida Legislature decided this purpose. The Texas Legislature has been called to meet in special session to consider, among other things the passing of laws for election machinery in accordance with the amendment.

SITUATION IN MARYLAND.

The Governor of Maryland has decided he is empowered under existing laws, to issue a writ of election to fill the unexpired term of the late Senator Rayner. Senator Jackson is now serving by designation of the Governor.

Such constitutional lawyers of the Senate as Senators Root and Southard are said to doubt the power of the Governor to issue the writ and the appearance of a new Senate from Maryland to take the oath of office may mark the initial fight in the Senate over the senatorial election machinery.

The situation is complicated by the amendment further limiting the Governor's power to fill vacancies in the Senate. In the past a Governor has filled vacancies occurring when the Legislature was not in session. Hereafter a Governor may not fill a vacancy, unless the Legislature of his State has empowered him to make temporary appointments until the people may fill the vacancy by election, as the Legislature may direct.

The matter has been called to the attention of the Democratic Congressional committee and it may take steps to urge the state to pass legislation as quickly as possible. It will see to it that the terms beginning in 1915 act before that time. Should vacancies occur during pendency of the Tariff Act in states where suitable machinery is not now provided, it is understood the committee would at once urge the convening of the state Legislature to authorize the Governors to appoint and to provide for the placing of candidates for Senator on the ballots in future elections.

NIAGARA RETURNS.

After 100 Years Commodore Perry's Flagship is Towed to Put-in-Bay.

Put-in-Bay, Ohio, July 21.—After 100 years, Commodore Perry's flagship, the Niagara, returned yesterday to the scene of its victory over the British fleet in the battle of Lake Erie in the war of 1812.

Towed by the Wolverline, Pennsylvania's naval militia ship and accompanied by Ohio's naval militia ships, the Essex and Dorothea, the Niagara late yesterday reached Gibraltar, the point from which Perry's fleet first sighted the British fleet, "two brigs, two ships, two schooners and one sloop."

Fifteen thousand people visited Put-in-Bay to see the Niagara brought into port. Half a hundred yachts in the harbor in readiness for the regatta of the Inter-Lake Yachting Association which begins today, saluted the old relic.

The Niagara will remain here the rest of this week.

Bulgaria Now Willing to Declare Peace.

London, July 21.—The news Bulgarian cabinet under M. Radoslavov formally notified the European powers today of this readiness to order the cessation of hostilities immediately if the powers can induce Serbia and Greece to take a similar course.

Bucharest, Rumania, July 21.—It is officially confirmed here that Bulgaria has accepted the conditions laid down by Rumania and has also agreed to the terms of peace with Serbia and Greece.